

southern Madera. Her mother and father, Ben and Esther Bishel, taught their children the values of thrift and hard work. By the age of 12, Patty was already playing an active role in the daily operation of the farm.

Despite her responsibilities on the farm, Patty made time to participate in school sports such as volleyball, basketball, baseball and track. In 1963 she became a finalist at the Junior Olympics. Patty was also a member of the California Association of American Athletes. She showed an early interest in government becoming involved in Student Council, and held various offices throughout her elementary years. Patty's high school years were even more active, and with the support of her parents, she ran for Freshman Class vice-president, she later became president the following year. Additionally she was a member of the North Yosemite League of Student Councils, Commissioner of Awards, and Student Court Reporter. She was also a member of the California Scholarship Federation and was named Soroptimist Girl of the Month.

Patty's dedication to her family and community has always been evident. Since 1973, she has been a member of the Madera County Farm Bureau and in 1985, became a member of the Raisin Bargaining Association, the Italo American Club, Inc., and the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Foundation. From 1978 to 1992 she served on numerous school site councils involved with principal selection committees and the Evaluation Committee for the High School State Report.

In January of 1996, Patty was honored by Governor Pete Wilson, when he appointed her to fill an unexpired term of the Board of Supervisors, District 1. In November of 1996, Patty was elected as County Supervisor of District 1 on her own merit. In her time as Supervisor she has served on the Fresno Madera Area Agency on Aging, Interagency Children and Youth Services Council, CSAC Policy Committee for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Economic Development Commission and the Foreign Trade Zone Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Patty Logoluso on the occasion of her retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors. For the past six years Patty has been a valuable asset to the public. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in wishing Patty best wishes for a bright future and continued success.

REMEMBERING THE MASSACRE AT HALABJA

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a horrifying event in our world's recent history. Eleven years ago, Saddam Hussein bombed the Kurdish town of Halabja with chemical weapons. Clouds of poison gas including mustard gas and sarin were rained down on Saddam's own people, merely because they were Kurds.

This heinous act resulted in the death of over 5,000 innocent civilians and injury to approximately 10,000 others. However, Halabja was neither the first nor the last of the chemical warfare attacks Saddam Hussein un-

leashed against the Iraqi Kurds. Throughout 1988, Saddam's brutal regime continued to use chemical weapons against its own people. In only 6 months, over 200 Kurdish villages were attacked and 25,000 people were killed by chemical weapons during the vicious Anfal Campaign. This campaign ultimately led to the destruction of 4,500 Kurdish villages and the death of 500,000 Kurdish people. More than 200,000 Kurds remain missing and 500,000 have been internally displaced.

Although the people of Halabja undoubtedly suffered beyond words when this horrifying event occurred 11 years ago, their children and their children's children will feel the effects of this one action of Saddam Hussein for generations to come. For, 11 years hence, the Halabja attack has not really ended. Many people in the region continue to suffer from respiratory problems, eye conditions, neurological disorders, skin problems, and cancers. All of these effects are attributable to long-term damage to DNA caused by the chemicals used by Saddam in the attack.

The Iraqi regime has never expressed remorse for Halabja, nor have Saddam Hussein and his thugs ever been called to account for these crimes they have committed against their own citizens. We do know that whether in attacks on Iraqis or neighboring states, inhumanity is precisely the common element of Saddam Hussein's policies. We must never forget the innocent people who died and those who continue to suffer from Saddam's ruthlessness.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BORDER IMPROVEMENT AND IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1999

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, in the 105th Congress, I introduced legislation to amend section 110 of the Immigration Reform Act of 1996 that mandated an automated entry-exit border control system by October 1, 1998. My bill, H.R. 2955, not only sought to correct the problems at the northern and southern borders that would have been created by hasty implementation of section 110, but also took a deliberate approach to analyzing the problem and determining the best solutions.

Today, I am reintroducing an updated version of that bill for consideration during the 106th Congress. Much has happened since last session's introduction of H.R. 2955, but the need for this legislation has not waned. My intent in introducing this bill is not only to correct a flaw, but to reignite debate and discussion as we work toward a final resolution of this critical problem. The response and enthusiastic support for this effort last year—culminating in delay of section 110's implementation until March 2001—demonstrates unmistakably that Congress views this as a serious problem that needs a permanent fix. My bill will accomplish that.

First, the bill would allow an entry-exit system to be implemented only at airports. INS has created an automated system now in use at several airports. But, the expense and lengthy set-up phase for that system highlighted the need to delay the deadline for im-

plementation at other airports to give the Attorney General enough time to effectively integrate the system at every airport where aliens enter the United States. Further, it specifically excludes land borders or sea ports from the system created by section 110. In effect, it repeals section 110 with respect to land borders and sea ports. Finally, it contains an exception for any alien for whom documentation requirements at airports have been waived under the Immigration and Nationality Act, primarily Canadians.

Second, the bill requires the Attorney General to submit a report to Congress one year after enactment on the difficulties of developing and implementing an automated entry-exit control system as presently prescribed in section 110, including arrivals and departures at land borders and sea ports. The study must assess the total cost and practical feasibility of various means of operating such an entry-exit system.

Third, the bill increases the number of INS border inspectors in each fiscal year, 2000–2002, by not less than 300 full-time persons each year. These new INS inspectors must be equally assigned to the northern and southern borders. Similarly, Customs inspectors must also be increased at the land borders by not less than 150 full-time persons in each fiscal year, 2000–2002, and the Customs inspectors in each year must be evenly assigned to the northern and southern borders.

Section 110 of the 1996 Immigration Reform Act mandated that an automated entry-exit system be established that would allow INS officers to match the entrance date with exit dates of legally admitted aliens. Congress included this section at the last minute during the House-Senate conference with the intent of solving the problem of overstaying visa holders—aliens who enter the United States legally but overstay their allotted time. Because the U.S. does not have a departure management system to track who leaves the United States, a new entry-exit system was thought to be the best vehicle to solve the problem.

In the rush to complete the bill before the end of the fiscal year on September 30, 1996, conferees did not have time to give this provision the scrutiny it deserves. Any attempt to install a documentation system will bring intolerable chaos and congestion to a system already strained.

As representative of the 29th district of New York, I have a particular interest in the problem of delays and congestion at our northern border crossings. My district, which includes Buffalo and Niagara Falls, has more crossings than any other district along the border. In a relatively small area, we boast four highway bridges and two railroad bridges. I know from personal experience the problems that delays and congestion can cause at these crossings.

Last year, more than 116 million people entered the United States by land from Canada. Of these, more than 76 million were Canadian nationals or United States permanent residents. And more than \$1 billion in goods and services trade crossed our border daily. To implement section 110 as it now stands would not only impede this traffic flow, it would contravene the United States-Canada Shared Border Accord which was intended to facilitate increased crossings of people and goods between our two countries.